



Refresh Your Spirits  
Reach New Heights

# Christmas and New Year Special

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec– Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2011

(15days/14 nights)

**Trongsa  
Festival  
Luxury Resort  
Hotel Option**

## Highlights

- A cultural sightseeing tour of Thimphu, Paro, Punakha, Wangdi, Trongsa & Bumthang
- Visit Dzongs (monasteries), Lakhangs (temples), museums, villages & places of natural beauty.
- Short hike to Taktsang Monastery “the famous “Tiger’s Nest” (Horse ride available on request).
- Visits to traditional arts and crafts schools and individual workshops. Watch artisans while they work.
- Evening of entertainment - performance by a traditional musicians and Bhutanese dining.
- Join flights from Bangkok, Delhi, Katmandhu, Kolkata

## About this tour

*This tour will bring you to the centre of Bhutan. It provides you with a thoroughly enjoyable cultural tour of the spiritual heartland of Bhutan. And you will attend the popular Masked Dance Festival of Trongsa Dzong.*

Your tour starts with a leisurely stop in **Paro**, giving you time to acclimatize and enjoy the many colourful cultural sites of Paro. In addition to a full cultural tour of **Thimphu, Punakha** and **Wangdi**, you will travel to the high-altitude glacial valley of **Phobjikha**. After full immersion in nature, with only solar-panelled electric lighting, you will move on to **Trongsa** and the cultural heartland of Bhutan, the **Bumthang** valley.

You will be driving through some of the most spectacular scenery in Bhutan, as you traverse the Black mountain range and cross several high passes. The Pele-la pass, at 3,300 metres, is often covered in mist. It marks the boundary between East and West and not only the landscape changes but also the climate, the houses and the customs differ as you descend towards Trongsa, the base of the first king of Bhutan

Two hours from Trongsa is the town of **Jakar**, the main town in the Bumthang valley (2700metres) where you will spend a day touring the sites linked to so many of Bhutan’s religious and historical legends. A highlight of the tour and a true visual delight is the “**Trongsa tsechu**” festival held in the Trongsa Dzong. Religious masked dances will be performed by monks and laymen.

Additional attractions include the wool weaving centers and the supplies of cheese, apple juice and honey that are produced here using Swiss methods. The area is ideal for gentle treks and day walks into the countryside, passing through villages where the farmers are going about their daily lives, ploughing with oxen, sifting wheat, grinding flour or weaving.

Celebrate the end of your visit with an evening of classic Bhutanese dining accompanied by musicians playing on traditional instruments. The final day’s trek to **Taktsang** (optional) is another highlight of the tour.

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Bhutan Visit, P.O. Box 1334, Lhaki Lam, Thimphu, Kingdom of Bhutan. Tel/Fax: (975)-2-325811

Website: <http://www.bhutanvisit.com> E-mail: [info@bhutanvisit.com](mailto:info@bhutanvisit.com)

## Trongsa Festival Tour

15Days/14Nights

### Flight Schedules:

#### From Bangkok

| Date                     | sector   | Flight no | Dep  | Arr  |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------|------|------|
| Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec | BKK- PBH | KB127     | 0720 | 1020 |
| Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan  | PBH- BKK | KB122     | 1100 | 1640 |

#### From Delhi

| Date                     | sector   | Flight no | Dep  | Arr  |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------|------|------|
| Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec | DEL- PBH | KB205     | 1210 | 1500 |
| Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan  | PBH- DEL | KB204     | 0900 | 1110 |

#### From Kolkata

| Date                     | Sector   | Flight no | Dep  | Arr  |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------|------|------|
| Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec | CCU- PBH | KB211     | 0930 | 1120 |
| Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan  | PBH-CCU  | KB210     | 0800 | 0850 |

#### From Kathmandu

| Date                     | sector  | Flight no | Dep  | Arr  |
|--------------------------|---------|-----------|------|------|
| Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec | KTM-PBH | KB411     | 1415 | 1620 |
| Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan  | PBH-KTM | KB410     | 1200 | 1335 |

### Outline Itinerary

- Day 1 Arrive Paro & transfer to hotel. Visit Drugyel Dzong.
- Day 2 Sightseeing in Paro valley. Visit the impressive Rinpung Dzong, the Ta Dzong museum, a Kichu lakhang and some of the most interesting temples in the valley. Drive to Thimphu and dinner at hotel Taj Tashi for christmas eve celebration.
- Day 3 Full sightseeing program in Thimphu. (2,400m) the Institute of Traditional Arts & Crafts (Zorig Chusum) the Institute of Traditional Medicine, Folk Heritage Museum, Takin reserve and Thimphu Dzong.
- Day 4 Morning excursion to Tango monastery and Changangkha temple in free time. Dinner at Traditional Bhutanese restaurant.
- Day 5 Drive to Punakha (3½hrs.). Stop at Dochula pass (3000m) and take a stroll through rice field villages in the semi-tropical region around Chimi Lakhang (1,200m).
- Day 6 Full sightseeing in Punakha valley and drive to Punakha Dzong. Visit Wangdi Dzong with its traditional shingle roof.
- Day 7 Drive to Phobjikha visits Gangtey Monastery the only Nyingma monastery in western Bhutan and take a pleasant easy hike along the Nature Trail.
- Day 8 Drive to Bumthang and dinner at hotel
- Day 9 Full sightseeing in Bumthang valley. The religious heartland of Bhutan, Bumthang is full of temples and sights of pilgrimage. Visit Jambay Lhakhang, Kurjey Lhakhang and Tamshing monastery.
- Day 10 Day excursion to Tang valley, nunnery and lake Membartsho.

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- Day 11 morning drive to Trongsa and attend Trongsa Festival for all most the day .The festivities consisted mainly of masked dances, chanting, blessing & reading religious texts. The repertory of masked dances and the gorgeous silk costumes are the same for all the ‘tsechu’ - only the settings are different. Thronging with locals, these occasions are a visual delight and sightseeing in evening for a while.
- Day 12 Drive back to Thimphu and evening Circumambulate the Memorial Chorten with the locals who turn the prayer wheels.
- Day 13 Drive to Paro and hike to Taktsang temple.
- Day 14 Flight departure from airport Tashi Delek...

## Group Tour Price (per person)

|   |  |                |                 |               |                   |
|---|--|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| <p><b>Land Package 14 Nights</b></p> <p><b>Min 8 – 16 persons</b></p> <p><b>US\$ 2,710</b> (full board, twin-sharing)</p> <p>Good Standard tourist hotels.</p> <p>Single Supplement: \$518</p><br><p><b>*US\$ 2,916</b> (full board, twin-sharing)</p> <p>Standard tourist hotels + two nights (B &amp; D) in a luxury Resort.</p> <p>Single Supplement: \$ 596</p>   | <p><b>Flight Costs</b></p> <p><u>Return Air Fare to/from Paro (inc taxes)*</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Bangkok: \$672</td> <td>Kolkata: \$ 361</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Delhi: \$ 569</td> <td>Kathmandu: \$ 358</td> </tr> </table> <p>*Price not confirmed until ticketed.</p> <p><b>Other Costs</b></p> <p><u>Visa fee:</u> US\$20</p> <p><u>Bank charge</u> US\$28 per remittance.</p> <p><u>Optional Extra</u> Transit hotel and tour.</p> | Bangkok: \$672 | Kolkata: \$ 361 | Delhi: \$ 569 | Kathmandu: \$ 358 |
| Bangkok: \$672  | Kolkata: \$ 361  |                |                 |               |                   |
| Delhi: \$ 569   | Kathmandu: \$ 358  |                |                 |               |                   |
| <p><b>Included</b></p> <p>English-speaking local guide.</p> <p>Airport Transfers.</p> <p>Private vehicle &amp; driver for duration of tour.</p> <p>Accommodation and all meals included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14 nights in standard tourist hotels, with Bhutanese character.</li> <li>• (*optional extra) 2 nights upgrade (B &amp; D) to a luxury resort hotel.</li> </ul> <p>All government royalties and taxes.</p> | <p><b>Not Included</b></p> <p>Travel insurance.</p> <p>Drinks and snacks.</p> <p>Expenditures of a personal nature.</p>  |                |                 |               |                   |

### Important Note

All our tours are offered dependent on flight and hotel availability. Since these are quite limited we recommend you book early to avoid disappointment. We request your understanding in the event of the need to alter dates and itineraries which we would only do in order to ensure the best holiday experience for you.

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